

英文字根字彙

English Word Roots

auto + bio + graphy
| | |
Self life writing

auto + cracy
| |
self rule

geo + graphy
| |
earth writing

auto + mob + ile
| | |
self move n.

nico + cracy
| |
era rule

geo + metry
| |
earth measurement

tele + graphy
| |
far writing

序 言

傳統記單字的方法是一個一個慢慢背，不但費時費力，而且容易忘記，這種方法已經落伍了！最好的方法是歸納分析相關的字群，如此好記又不易忘。「英文字根字彙」就是應這種需要而編譯的。

本書有下列幾項特點：

1. **圖解字根**：用科學方法分析字根，了解英文造字的規則及典故，不但背單字能過目不忘，碰到生字時，還能舉一反三，分析出正確的意思。
2. **串連記憶法**：藉著造字的規則及典故，掌握單字的來龍去脈；一串一串背下來，形成有系統的整體，不必再擔心拼錯字。
3. **習題最實用**：每個單元之後的 Exercises 和 Review，不僅是驗收成果的最佳方式，而且能鞏固您的字彙堡壘，歷久彌堅。

熟讀本書，讓您背單字事半功倍、樂趣無窮。短期之內，保證字彙增加六倍以上！

本書雖經審慎的編譯和多次的校對，疏漏仍恐難免，尚祈各方先進予以指教。

編者 謹識

再版的話

「英文字根字彙」出版以來，得到許多讀者的回響。最令我高興的是，很多讀者表示看了這本書後，不再將背英文單字視為一件苦差事；相反的，看報章雜誌碰到新的單字，就會用所知的字根來推敲其意義。有的讀者表示，自從看了本書，許多以前容易混淆的字都弄得一清二楚了。也有的讀者利用本書來準備托福、GRE考試，成果卓越。

讀者能從「英文字根字彙」發掘讀英文的樂趣，並且增進實力，是我編譯這本書的目的，也是學習全體編輯的一貫理想。懇請您繼續給我們批評和指正。

編者 謹識

本書採用米色宏康護眼印書紙，版面清晰自然，不傷眼睛。

揭開英文造字之謎

以理解字源的方法，來增強英文字彙能力，最快速而且最有趣；不但看過的單字歷久不忘，遇到新字還可以舉一反三，分析出它的意思。現在請試閱下列單字，看看究竟對它們的典故知多少？

- **companion** [COM with + PAN bread] was originally a person who shared his bread with... (原義：拿出自己的麵包，與別人分享的人 今義：同伴)
- **escape** [ES out + CAPE cape] originally meant to go out of one's cape, leaving it in the hands of the pursuer... (原義：脫下披風留給追逐者而逃逸 今義：逃脫)
- **insect** [IN in + SECT to cut] was so named because its body is "cut" in three segments (意謂：其身體分有三節；指昆蟲)
- **malaria** [MAL bad + ARIA air] was so named because people thought it was caused by the bad air of the swamps... (意謂：由沼澤中的瘴氣所引起的疾病；指瘧疾)
- **pedagogue** [PED child + AGOGUE leader] was originally a slave who led a Greek child to school... (原義：帶希臘小孩上學的奴隸 今義：〔輕蔑〕教師)
- **preposterous** [PRE before + POST after] originally meant having the before part where the after part should be... (原義：前後倒置 今義：反常的；荒謬的)
- **trivia** [TRI three + VIA way] in Roman times meant the crossroads where three ways met and where women on their way to market stopped to chat about unimportant things (TRI VIA talk)... (原義：羅馬婦人在三叉路口閒話家常 今義：瑣事)

英文單字串連記憶法

只要得其法，征服英文單字並不難。請瀏覽下列一長串字鏈，相信您會意識到英文單字「串連記憶法」的奧妙——掌握單字的來龍去脈，進而作相關字的聯想。讀完本書之後，您的字彙能力必可突飛猛進，串連出更長的字鏈。

biped	兩足動物
↓	[<i>BI two + PED foot</i>]
pedometer	記步器；步程計
↓	[<i>PEDO foot + METER measure</i>]
geometry	幾何學
↓	[<i>GEO earth + METRY measure</i>]
geography	地理學
↓	[<i>GEO earth + GRAPHY write</i>]
biography	傳記
↓	[<i>BIO life + GRAPHY write</i>]
biology	生物學；生態學
↓	[<i>BIO life + LOGY study of</i>]
theology	宗教學
↓	[<i>THEO god + LOGY study of</i>]
atheist	無神論者
↓	[<i>A without + THE god</i>]
apathetic	冷淡的
↓	[<i>A without + PATH feeling</i>]
sympathy	同情
↓	[<i>SYM together + PATH feeling</i>]
symphony	交響樂；交響樂團
↓	[<i>SYM together + PHONY sound</i>]

telephone	電話
↓	[TELE <i>far</i> + PHONE <i>sound</i>]
telescope	望遠鏡
↓	[TELE <i>far</i> + SCOPE <i>look</i>]
microscope	顯微鏡
↓	[MICRO <i>small</i> + SCOPE <i>look</i>]
microcosm	小宇宙；縮圖
↓	[MICRO <i>small</i> + COSM <i>universe</i>]
cosmonaut	蘇聯太空人
↓	[COSMO <i>universe</i> + NAUT <i>sailer</i>]
astronaut	太空人
↓	[ASTRO <i>star</i> + NAUT <i>sailer</i>]
astronomy	天文學
↓	[ASTRO <i>star</i> + NOMY <i>law</i>]
autonomy	自治
↓	[AUTO <i>self</i> + NOMY <i>law</i>]
automobile	汽車
↓	[AUTO <i>self</i> + MOB <i>move</i>]
immobile	不能移動的；一動不動的
↓	[IM <i>not</i> + MOB <i>move</i>]
infidel	無宗教信仰的人
↓	[IN <i>not</i> + FID <i>faith</i>]
confident	自信的
↓	[CON <i>together</i> + FID <i>faith</i>]
committee	委員會
↓	[COM <i>together</i> + MITT <i>send</i>]
transmit	傳達；傳播
↓	[TRANS <i>across</i> + MIT <i>send</i>]
transport	運輸
↓	[TRANS <i>across</i> + PORT <i>carry</i>]

report	報導；報告
↓	[RE <i>back</i> + PORT <i>carry</i>]
recur	再發生
↓	[RE <i>back</i> + CUR <i>run</i>]
excursion	遠足；旅行
↓	[EX <i>away</i> + CUR <i>run</i>]
exclude	拒絕；排除
↓	[EX <i>away</i> + CLUDE <i>shut</i>]
seclude	隔離；隱居
↓	[SE <i>apart</i> + CLUDE <i>shut</i>]
secure	無慮的；安全的
↓	[SE <i>without</i> + CURE <i>care</i>]
manicure	修指甲
↓	[MANI <i>hand</i> + CURE <i>care</i>]
manuscript	原稿；草稿
↓	[MANU <i>hand</i> + SCRIPT <i>write</i>]
subscribe	簽署；同意
↓	[SUB <i>under</i> + SCRIBE <i>write</i>]
subversive	顛覆的；破壞的
↓	[SUB <i>under</i> + VERS <i>run</i>]
controversy	爭論；辯論
↓	[CONTRO <i>against</i> + VERS <i>run</i>]
contradict	反駁；抵觸
↓	[CONTRA <i>against</i> + DICT <i>speak</i>]
benediction	祝福；祝禱
↓	[BENE <i>good</i> + DICT <i>speak</i>]
benefactor	行善者；捐助者
↓	[BENE <i>good</i> + FACT <i>do</i>]
facility	容易；熟練
↓	[FAC <i>do</i> + ILITY <i>ability</i>]
⋮	⋮

常見的字源變化

字源包括字首、字根、字尾，讀者在研讀時須留意：相同的字源可能會因單字不同而略有改變。例如：EX 意謂 out，如 excursion「遠足」，但 EX 會變成 ES，如 escape「逃脫」，或者只剩 E，如 educate。這種改變往往是為了使發音變得容易，讀者可試試 escape 和 educate 是不是比 excape 和 exducation 容易發音。以下是常見的字源變化方法。

一、字首的最後一個字母變成與字根的第一個字母相同：

COM nect	—————>	CON nect
COM loquial	—————>	COL loquial
COM relate	—————>	COR relate
DIS fident	—————>	DIF fident
SYN metrical	—————>	SYM metrical

二、字首的最後一個字母變成相似的字母：

EX cape	—————>	ES cape
COM temporary	—————>	CON temporary
SYN pathy	—————>	SYM pathy

三、字首的最後一個字母省略：

DIS vert	—————>	DI vert
EX ducate	—————>	E ducate

此外，字根的變化繁多，茲舉一例，其餘詳見本書內容，如 CLUD 意謂 to close；to shut：

CLUD	—————>	seclude
CLUS	—————>	recluse
CLAUS	—————>	claustrophobia
CLOS	—————>	closet

至於字尾的變化比較容易分辨，讀者不難一眼看出其詞性，故不贅述。



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最重要英文字根

50 →

A, AN— not, without 「不；無」

* 當 **a** 或 **an** 加在某些字的字首時，通常是否定這個字的意思。比較 **atheist** 和 **agnostic**，雖然它們都以 **a** 為字首，但意義上有很大出入，要特別注意。**atheist** [a= without; the= god] 是指「無神論者」，而 **agnostic** [a= not; gnos= to know] 是指「神不可知論者」。換言之，**atheist** 是否定神的存在；而 **agnostic** 則認為要知道神的存在與否是不可能的。

atypical [e' tɪpɪkəl] *adj.* 非典型的；不正常的

a	+	typical	— not typical
not + typical			

Such a serious concert by that rock group was certainly **atypical**.
那搖滾樂團舉辦如此嚴肅的音樂會，確實不正常。

asymmetric [,esi'metrik, ,æ-] *adj.* 不對稱的

a	+	sym	+	metric	lit. not measured together; not having both sides exactly alike; not symmetrical
not + together + measure					

She preferred **asymmetric** flower arrangements.
她比較喜歡不對稱的插花。

anonymous [ə' nɒnɪməs] *adj.* 無名的；不具名的；匿名的

an	+	onym	+	ous	lit. without a name; having an unknown or unacknowledged name
without + name + adj.					

The donor of the new building wished to remain **anonymous**.
捐贈這棟新建築的人希望能不公開他的姓名。

anarchy ['ænəkɪ] *n.* 無政府狀態

an	+	archy
without + ruler		

— lit. without a ruler ; political disorder and confusion

The overthrow of the government resulted in complete **anarchy**.
推翻政府的結果，造成完全無政府狀態。

atheist ['eθɪst] *n.* 無神論者

a	+	the	+	ist
without + god + n.				

— lit. one who is without a God ; one who denies the existence of God

The **atheist** was unwilling to attend the church service.
無神論者不願意做禮拜。

agnostic [æg' nɒstɪk] *n.* 神不可知論者 *adj.* 神不可知論的

a	+	gnos	+	tic
not + to know + adj. n.				

— one who thinks it is not possible to know whether there is a God

He had lost his former faith and had become an **agnostic**.
他放棄了從前的信仰，成了神不可知論者。

anemia [ə' nɪmiə] *n.* 貧血

an	+	emia
without + blood		

— lit. without blood ; a deficiency of red corpuscles in the blood

Her weakness was caused by **anemia**.

她身體衰弱是由貧血引起的。

EXERCISE 1 將下列的字配合定義，填入空格。

- A. agnostic B. atheist C. anonymous
D. anarchy E. asymmetric

- D 1 political disorder and confusion
E 2 not having both sides exactly alike
B 3 one who does not believe in God
C 4 having an unknown or unacknowledged name
A 5 one who doesn't know whether there is a God

EXERCISE 2 根據句意將EXERCISE 1的五個字，填入空格。

- 1 The author of the book preferred to remain anonymous.
2 The country was in anarchy until a new ruler took charge.
3 He used to be an agnostic, not knowing whether there is a God.
4 Now he calls himself an atheist, denying the existence of God.
5 An asymmetric arrangement of pictures gives a pleasing effect.

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ANSWERS: EX. 1 1 D 2 E 3 B 4 C 5 A

EX. 2 1 anonymous 2 anarchy 3 agnostic
4. atheist 5 asymmetric

AMBI, AMPHI — both, around 「兩者；周圍」

* **ambi** 和 **amphi** 是「兩者；周圍」的意思，認識這兩個字根之後，很多長的單字就容易記下來了。如 **ambidextrous** (ambi = both; dextr = right hand) 的原意是「兩隻手都是右手」，一般人是右手較靈活，既然兩手都像右手，引申為「兩手都很靈巧的」。其他如 **ambivalent** 「情緒矛盾的」(ambi = both; valent = strong)，**amphitheater** 「圓形劇場；競技場」(amphi = around) 等較長的單字，都會變得生動有趣了。

ambidextrous [,æmbə'dekstrəs] *adj.* 兩手都很靈巧的

ambi	+	dextr	+	ous
both	+	right hand	+	adj.

— lit. both right hands; able to use both hands with equal ease

She is **ambidextrous** in tennis.

她對打網球很在行。

amphibian [æm'fɪbiən] *n.* 水陸兩棲的動物；水陸兩用的飛機

amphi	+	bi	+	an
both	+	life	+	n.

— an animal that lives both in the water and on land. also, an aircraft that can take off and land both on water and on land

★ Frogs, toads, and salamanders are **amphibians**.

青蛙、蟾蜍、火龍都是水陸兩棲動物。

ambiguous [æm'bigjuəs] *adj.* 有兩種或兩種以上的意義的；含糊的

ambi +	gu	+ ous
both + to drive + <i>adj.</i>		

— having two (both) possible meanings

From her **ambiguous** answer I couldn't tell whether she was giving me a compliment or a veiled insult.

從她含糊的回答中，我分不清她是在恭維我，還是給我一種隱隱的侮辱。

ambiguity [,æmbi'gjuəti] *n.* 兩種或兩種以上的意義；曖昧

ambi +	gu	+ ity
both + to drive + <i>n.</i>		

— the quality of having two (both) possible meanings

The **ambiguity** in his writing leaves the reader puzzled.

他的作品之中曖昧語意，使讀者感到疑惑。

ambivalent [æm'bivələnt] *adj.* 情緒矛盾的；好惡相尅的

ambi +	valent
both + strong	

— having conflicting (both kinds of) feelings toward someone or something

He felt **ambivalent** about giving the speech, wanting to give it and yet dreading it.

由於想要發表而又害怕，他對發表此次演說感到矛盾。

ambitious [æm'biʃəs] *adj.* 有野心的；極欲獲得權力的

ambi +	ti	+ ous
around + to go + <i>adj.</i>		

— originally, going around for votes; today, a strong desire to succeed

She's **ambitious** to be president of the company.

她很想當這家公司的董事長。

amphitheater ['æmfə,θiətə, -θiə-] *n.* 競技場；圓形劇場

amphi + theater
around + theater

— an oval or round structure with tiers of seats around an open space

The game took place in the **amphitheater**.

這比賽在競技場上舉行。

ambience ['æmbriəns] *n.* 周圍；環境

ambi + ence
around + n.

— the surrounding atmosphere; environment

That restaurant has an attractive **ambience**.

那家餐館有吸引人的環境。



EXERCISE 1 將下列的字配合定義，填入空格。

- A. ambidextrous B. amphibian C. amphitheater
D. ambiguous E. ambivalent

- _____1 able to use both hands with equal ease
_____2 an open structure with tiers of seats around an open space
_____3 an aircraft that can take off and land both on water and on land
_____4 having two possible meanings
_____5 having conflicting feelings toward someone or something

EXERCISE 2 根據句意將 EXERCISE 1 的五個字，填入空格。

- 1 From the Senator's _____ statement, it wasn't possible to tell what he intended to do.
2 She felt _____ toward her brother, both loving him and hating him.
3 Luckily our plane was an _____ since we had to come down on the water.
4 He's _____ and can pitch equally well with either hand.
5 Every seat in the _____ was filled for the game.

ANSWERS: EX.1 1 A 2 C 3 B 4 D 5 E

EX.2 1 ambiguous 2 ambivalent 3 amphibian
4 ambidextrous 5 amphitheater